

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE, Complainant, vs. QUASAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP., Respondent.	DOCKET NO. FCU-04-46
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**ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND
ASSESSING CIVIL PENALTY**

(Issued November 12, 2004)

On September 3, 2004, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for a proceeding to consider a civil penalty for an alleged slamming violation committed by Quasar Communications Corp. (Quasar).

Consumer Advocate asserts that Quasar switched the complaining customer's long distance service without proper authorization in violation of Iowa's anti-slamming law, Iowa Code § 476.103 (2003). The complaint was identified as Docket No. FCU-04-46.

On November 9, 2004, Consumer Advocate and Quasar submitted a joint motion for approval of the settlement agreement contained in the motion. The settlement agreement addresses all issues in the docket and includes a monetary penalty against Quasar in the amount of \$500, which is to be paid within 30 days of the date of this order.

The Board has reviewed the settlement agreement and will approve it. The settlement agreement is reasonable in light of the record, conforms with all applicable statutes and rules, and is in the public interest. 199 IAC 7.2(11).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The "Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement" filed in this docket on November 9, 2004, is granted and the "Settlement Agreement" is approved.

2. Pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.103 and the "Settlement Agreement" filed November 9, 2004, Quasar Communications Corp. is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$500. Payment, in the form of a check made payable to the Iowa Utilities Board, should be forwarded to the Executive Secretary of the Iowa Utilities Board at 350 Maple Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0069. Payment is due within 30 days of the date of this order. The docket number listed on this order shall be listed on the check or in the accompanying correspondence.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 12th day of November, 2004.